

Botrychium alaskense, a New Moonwort from the Interior of Alaska

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ABSTRACT.—*Botrychium alaskense* W. H. Wagner & J. R. Grant is described as a new species from the interior of Alaska. It is an allotetraploid of *B. lunaria* (L.) Sw. × *B. lanceolatum* (S.G. Gmel.) Ångstr., the same species parentage that gave rise to the morphologically and isozymically distinct *B. pinnatum* H. St. John.

Outside of North America, only seven species of *Botrychium* are currently recognized: *Botrychium boreale* Milde, *B. lanceolatum* (S.G. Gmel.) Ångstr., *B. lunaria* (L.) Sw., *B. matricariifolium* (Döll) A. Braun, *B. multifidum* (S.G. Gmel.) Rupr., *B. simplex* E. Hitchc., and *B. virginianum* (L.) Sw. Each of these species is also recorded in North America, although the identity of *B. boreale*-like plants in North America is in question, and likely represent either *B. pinnatum* H. St. John or *B. alaskense* W.H. Wagner & J.R. Grant. In addition, North America has more than 25 endemic species, nearly all of which have been recognized in the past three decades, and some of which are still undescribed. A surprisingly large number of these occur in the cordilleran region of western North America.

The majority of the North American endemics have been overlooked apparently because of their inconspicuous appearance, their common occurrence in unexpected, disturbed habitats, or their general rarity. We here describe another new species, this one from the interior of Alaska.

***Botrychium alaskense* W. H. Wagner & J. R. Grant, sp. nov., Figs. 1–2.**

A *B. pinnato* H. St. John tropophoro oblongo-deltato, saturate viridibus, pinnis usque 4–6-jugis irregulariter decompositis, inter se approximatis vel distantibus, lobulis plerumque oblongis angulatis, basi anguste (per 40–90°) cuneatis diversa.

FIG. 1. Three species of *Botrychium* from northwestern North America. Bottom row left (3 specimens), *Botrychium pinnatum* (W. H. Wagner 99128 et al., MICH). Bottom row right (3 specimens), *B. lanceolatum* (W. H. Wagner 99120 et al., MICH). Remaining (18 specimens), *B. alaskense* (W. H. Wagner 99005 et al., MICH).